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DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 09/813,306 03/21/2001 Osamu Kasono 040894-5644 1542 EXAMINER 9629 7590 12/17/2003 MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP CHU, KIM KWOK 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER WASHINGTON, DC 20004 2653

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Applicant(s) 09/813,306 KASONO ET AL. **Advisory Action** Art Unit Examiner Kim-Kwok CHU 2653 -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --THE REPLY FILED 03 December 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may <u>only</u> be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.
PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]
 a)
Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).
1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
(a) Ithey raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
(c) Ithey are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.
NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.
3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5.☒ The a)☐ affidavit, b)☐ exhibit, or c)☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> .
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed:
Claim(s) objected to:
Claim(s) rejected: <u>1-7</u> .
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration:
8. The drawing correction filed on is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.
9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s)
10. ☐ Other:

Continuation Sheet (PTOL-303)





Continuation of 2. NOTE:

- 1. Newly added claim 8 has a "a delay circuit" feature which was not previously claimed, and it requires further consideration and/or search; and
- 2. in claim 3, the added feature "for outputting no signal if the height of the foreign material is lower than the floating height of the immersion lens" was not previously claimed and it requires further consideration and/or search.

KC (416/03

Examiner: Kim CHU AU 2653

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